

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation. Fair and balanced reporting requires balance. Opinions need to be clearly labeled as such not snuck in as "news" or "documentary."

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, bias and propaganda. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive and balanced news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.